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National Agricultural Statistics Service



Regional News Release

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LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER – 2013 ANNUAL UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Total red meat production for the United States totaled 49.3 billion pounds in 2013, slightly lower than the previous year. Red meat includes beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Red meat production in **commercial plants** totaled 49.2 billion pounds. **On-farm slaughter** totaled 95.6 million pounds.

Beef production totaled 25.8 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the previous year. **Veal production** totaled 118 million pounds, down 6 percent from last year. **Pork production**, at 23.2 billion pounds, was slightly below the previous year. **Lamb and mutton production** totaled 161 million pounds, up slightly from 2012.

Commercial cattle slaughter during 2013 totaled 32.5 million head, down 1 percent from 2012, with federal inspection comprising 98.4 percent of the total. The average live weight was 1,314 pounds, up 12 pounds from a year ago. **Steers** comprised 50.1 percent of the total federally inspected cattle slaughter, **heifers** 28.6 percent, **dairy cows** 9.8 percent, **other cows** 9.8 percent, and **bulls** 1.7 percent.

Commercial calf slaughter totaled 762,000 head, 1 percent lower than a year ago with 98.6 percent under federal inspection. The average live weight was 250 pounds, down 10 pounds from a year earlier.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 112.1 million head, 1 percent lower than 2012 with 99.3 percent of the hogs slaughtered under federal inspection. The average live weight was up 1 pound from last year, at 276 pounds. **Barrows and gilts** comprised 97.0 percent of the total federally inspected hog slaughter.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter, at 2.32 million head, was up 6 percent from the previous year with 91.4 percent by federal inspection. The average live weight was down 8 pounds from 2012 at 135 pounds. **Lambs and yearlings** comprised 93.7 percent of the total federally inspected sheep slaughter.

For a full copy of the *Livestock Slaughter 2013 Summary* report please visit www.nass.usda.gov.